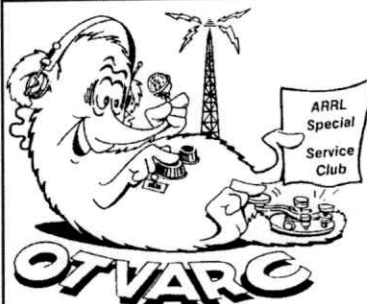


# OSCILLATOR

# OTVARC



1998 - TWENTIETH  
ANNIVERSARY  
YEAR

Oregon Tualatin Valley Amateur Radio Club (Est. 1978)

July, 1998

## THE PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

By Betty, N7REX

By the time you read this Field Day '98 will be just a memory. A pleasant memory, preferably. I sincerely hope that those of you at the June meeting who said you had never been to a field day had an opportunity to come to Willamette Mission Park and join in the fun.

Hopefully this year we won't have had any pranksters untying guy ropes, like field day '97. The contest rules have changed a little and the RF exposure rules have added a few new wrinkles. Our club scores are not usually spectacular, but they are always presentable. What's further, the group always has a good time.

Speaking of a good time, July 18th is the tentative date for the Sea\*Pac pizza thank you party. If you helped out, be sure and check with your committee chairperson for details.

Remember the change in date for this year's July Traveler's camp out. We will be going the second weekend instead of the third. The place is still the same, the Skamokawa County Park. The dinner is essentially the same, hamburger BBQ, pot luck, and home made ice cream. Hope to see you there.

July starts on Wednesday this month, so don't miss the club meeting on the 8th. Also, July has a 5th Wednesday, so get ready for the 5th Wednesday contest. Let's flood Jim KB7ADH with log sheets this time.

July 25 is the first of the public service events I need help with. I need a few good ham radio operators with 440 equipment to help on the Summit to Surf Bicycle tour. Catch me at the meeting if you are interested. We are still taking names for people who want to help with the MS 150 bike tour on August 1st and 2nd. July is going to be a busy one. 73, Betty

□□



### JULY 4TH

**HAVE A NICE  
WEEKEND  
CELEBRATION**

## NEXT MEETING

### WEDNESDAY, JULY 8TH

Our program speaker will be Wes Allen, K7WWG. He will tell us about his trip to Dayton, Ohio, to attend the recent Dayton Hamvention.

If you've never been to the Dayton Hamvention, this is your chance to learn about the biggest ham convention in the U.S.

The square footage is unbelievable, the crowds are awesome and the bargains are terrific at the huge flea market! Wes will describe it all and tell us about the problems of taking purchased goodies home on an airplane.

Also, Alan, KB7POR, will fill us in on the Field Day happenings.

This will be an interesting meeting.

W7OTV 146.90 (RPTR)

[WWW.EASYSTREET.COM/OTVARC](http://WWW.EASYSTREET.COM/OTVARC)

## HONORING THE AMERICAN FLAG

Condensed from a speech by Leo K. Thorsness,  
recipient of The Congressional Medal of Honor.

You've probably seen the bumper sticker somewhere along the road. It depicts an American Flag, accompanied by the words "These colors don't run." I'm always glad to see this, because it reminds me of an incident from my confinement in North Vietnam at the Hao Lo POW Camp, or the "Hanoi Hilton," as it became known. Then a Major in the U.S. Air Force, I had been captured and imprisoned from 1967-1973. Our treatment had been frequently brutal. After three years, however, the beatings and torture became less frequent.

During the last year, we were allowed outside most days for a couple of minutes to bathe. We showered by drawing water from a concrete tank with a homemade bucket. One day as we all stood by the tank, stripped of our clothes, a young Naval pilot named Mike Christian found the remnants of a handkerchief in a gutter that ran under the prison wall. Mike managed to sneak the grimy rag into our cell and began fashioning it into a flag.

Over time we all loaned him a little soap, and he spent days cleaning the material. We helped by scrounging and stealing bits and pieces of anything he could use. At night, under his mosquito net, Mike worked on the flag. He made red and blue from ground-up roof tiles and tiny amounts of ink and painted the colors onto the cloth with watery rice glue. Using thread from his own blanket and a homemade bamboo needle, he sewed on stars.

Early in the morning a few days later, when the guards were not alert, he whispered loudly from the back of our cell, "Hey gang, look here." He proudly held up this tattered piece of cloth, waving it as if in a breeze. If you used your imagination, you could tell it was supposed to be an American flag. When he raised that smudgy fabric, we automatically stood straight and saluted, our chests puffing out, and more than a few eyes had tears.

About once a week the guards would strip us, run us outside and go through our clothing. During one of those shakedowns, they found Mike's flag. We all knew what would happen. That night they came for him. Night interrogations were always the worst. They opened the cell door and pulled Mike out. We could hear the beginning of the torture before they even had him in the torture cell. They beat him most of the night. About daylight they pushed what was left of him back through the cell door. He was badly broken; even his voice was gone.

Within two weeks, despite the danger, Mike scrounged another piece of cloth and began another flag. The Stars and Stripes, our national symbol, was worth the sacrifice to him. Now whenever I see the flag, I think of Mike and the morning he first waved that tattered emblem of a nation. It was then, thousands of miles from home in a lonely prison cell, that he showed us what it is to be truly free.

**\*\*SEAPAC VOLUNTEERS\*\***

**"Thank You" Pizza feed on July 18th!**

## RANDY STIMSON, KZ7T, HONORED

From The ARRL Letter

Outgoing Section Manager honored: At the recent SeaPac Convention in Seaside, Oregon, ARRL President Rodney Stafford, W6ROD, presented a Meritorious Service Award to outgoing Oregon Section Manager Randy Stimson, KZ7T, of Portland, Oregon.

Randy, 66, a long time member of OTVARC, stepped down as Oregon's SM on July 1 after more than 10 years of volunteer service. Reported by EWA SM Kyle Pugh, KA7CSP.

## CANADIAN SPECIAL STATION CALL SIGNS

From the W5YI REPORT

Those special station call sign prefixes coming out of Canada are to commemorate the 125<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the formation of the Royal Canadian Mounted Police. They may be used until July 15, 1998. For example: VE1's may use the prefix VX1. The other areas are:

VE2 - VX2	VE5 - VX5	VO1 - XL1
VA2 - XK2	VE6 - VX6	VO2 - XL2
VE3 - VX3	VE7 - VX7	VY1 - XN1
VA3 - XK3	VE8 - VX8	VY2 - XN2
VE4 - VX4	VE9 - VX9	

## AREA CW NET

By Editor, W7OTV

A local CW Slow Speed Net is on the air each Monday through Saturday evening at 7:00PM. It can be found at 28.310Mhz and the net control is AB7BI, Charles Beaver. Some Sundays it is also on at the same time and frequency, but with a different net control. Speed of the net is kept below 13wpm.

If you're interested in CW, but aren't sure what it is all about, this is a good net to start your listening

## BORSCH ELECTRONICS

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## DALE HUNT TO LEAD U.S. ARDF TEAM

From The ARRL Letter

Dale Hunt, WB6BYU, of Yamhill, Oregon, will lead the US fox-hunting team at the ninth World Championships of Amateur Radio Direction Finding (ARDF) this fall. The competition of radio orienteers will be held in Hungary during the first week of September. The US foray will mark this country's first effort at the World Championship of foxhunting.

The aptly named Hunt, 45, is experienced in the sport of international-style foxhunting. He competed last year against Russian, Canadian and Japanese hams at the Friendship Radiosport Games near Tokyo, Japan.

Under WB6BYU's leadership, four other West Coast hams are expected to compete on Team USA at the City of Nyiregyhaza, 150 miles east of Budapest. Team USA will be up against hundreds of the best foxhunters from more than two dozen European and Asian countries in a pair of two-hour sprints through a large forest. "There are two separate transmitter hunts, each on a different day," Moell says. One hunt is on 80 meters (CW foxes) and the other hunt is on 2 meters (MCW AM foxes). "Each hunt has five fox transmitters hidden in a forested area," he explains.

Some spaces remain on the Team USA roster, especially in the Junior Division (boys under 18 years of age), Veteran's Division (men over age 55), and Women's Division (any age, nobody asks!).

For information, contact ARRL ARDF Coordinator Joe Moell, K0OV, PO Box 2508, Fullerton, CA 92837. E-mail is: [homingin@aol.com](mailto:homingin@aol.com).

For a look at the official invitation to the championships and for more information about ARDF rules, equipment and techniques, see <http://members.aol.com/homingin/>.

◀▶

## BARRY GOLDWATER, K7UGA, DEAD AT AGE 89

From the W5YI REPORT

Former Arizona Senator and staunch conservative presidential candidate Barry Goldwater K7UGA, died of natural causes at his home in Paradise Valley, Arizona on May 29 1998. He was 89. Born in Phoenix January 1, 1909, Barry was the son of an immigrant Polish peddler who launched the Goldwater department store chain. As a youth, he operated as 6BPI. He was first licensed as a ham operator in 1921.

After graduation from Staunton (Virginia) Military Academy, Barry joined the Army in 1930 as a Second Lieutenant and quickly rose through the ranks. During the Second World War, Goldwater was a pilot and Colonel in the U.S. Army Air Force.

He entered politics in 1952 as a freshman Senator and his name was entered as a presidential candidate in 1960. Goldwater captured the 1964 presidential nomination after a convention fight with New York Gov. Nelson Rockefeller but lost to incumbent Pres. Lyndon Johnson.

Goldwater retired as an Air Force Reserve major general in 1967 and was re-elected to the Senate the following year. It was Barry who told Pres. Nixon in August 1974 that he would be impeached if he didn't resign. Nixon resigned that same week.

As a Senator, Goldwater's legacy included several pieces of Amateur Radio-related legislation. In 1964, Goldwater's bill to allow reciprocal operating agreements between the US and other countries was signed into law. It was his work on the bill that prompted the Arizona Senator to renew his interest in ham radio after a long absence. An active member of Air Force MARS, Goldwater handled thousands of phone patches during the Vietnam War era.

In 1982, Congress finally approved and Pres. Reagan signed what came to be known as the Goldwater Amateur Radio legislation, enacted as Public Law 97-259. The measure established the Amateur Auxiliary and the volunteer examination programs, permitted 10-year license terms, and exempted Amateur Radio from the secrecy provisions in the Communications Act. A year later, Pres. Reagan signed into law a bill including a Goldwater amendment that allowed the recovery of costs in the Volunteer Examiner program.

In 1985, Peggy, his wife of more than 50 years died. Barry retired from the Senate in 1987 and at age 83, married Susan Wechsler, 51. His health began to fail in 1996 when he suffered a stroke which damaged his brain and he was in the early stages of Alzheimer's disease.

Pres. Clinton ordered all U.S. flags on federal buildings and installations lowered to half-staff on the day of the funeral, June 3<sup>rd</sup>. Goldwater was a life member of the ARRL and served as president of the Quarter Century Wireless Association the early 1970s.

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## A FUND RAISING PROJECT TO HELP PRINEVILLE

By Marilyn, KJ7AY

During May 29 through May 31, Prineville, OR experienced severe flooding when torrential rainfall caused the Ochoco Creek to overflow its banks. Residents from about 400 homes were affected by the flood, and 100 homes were seriously damaged. Many of the homeowners did not have flood insurance. After inspection, some of the homes have been condemned for being inhabitable.

I have written and spoken to Nike about receiving donated merchandise that could be raffled, with the proceeds collected to be given to the Red Cross to aid the Prineville residents affected by the

(Continued on page 4)



(Continued from page 3 - PRINEVILLE FLOOD)

flood. They agreed to give four gift certificates for 2 pairs of Nike shoes (retail value \$75-100 per pair of shoes) and 2 sets of sweat suits (retail value \$65-90 per suit).

The goal would be to raise as much money as we can by selling raffle tickets for the price of \$1 per ticket. The drawing will take place at the Metro ARC picnic on September 12. Persons do not need to be present at the picnic to win a gift certificate. All money collected will be donated to the Red Cross, with Prineville flood victims specified to receive the money (none of the money is deducted for administrative expenses).

Members of each participating ARC will handle the sale of the raffle tickets of their respective clubs before the picnic date and on the day of the picnic so we can raise as much money as possible.

At of this date, four of the metropolitan area ARCs have been contacted: PARC, OTVARC, CCARC, and WVDXC. HARC will be contacted shortly. Wayne Shuler, AI9Q, and Gene Buell, KA7KBH, have agreed to sell the raffle tickets at CCARC and OTVARC respectively. Sale of the tickets does not need to be restricted to ARCs.

An attempt will be made to try to obtain other contributions of gift certificates or merchandise. Most retail businesses prefer to donate to non-profit organizations that have a 501C3 IRS designation.

At the conclusion of this project, a list of the participating clubs with member names who contributed will be sent to the businesses who donated merchandise and to the Red Cross.

This project is an opportunity for you to help where there is a great need and to continue the public service associated with amateur radio during disasters. <>

## DIVISION HAMFESTS AND CONVENTIONS

By Mary Lou, NM7N  
Northwest Division Director

- |               |  |
|---------------|--|
| July 17-19    | Glacier-Waterton Hamfest, MT                           |
| July 17-19    | Northwestern DX Convention, Seattle, WA                |
| July 25       | Lewiston-Clarkston Hamfest, Lewiston, ID               |
| July 31-Aug 2 | 3905 Century Club, Bandon, OR                          |
| Aug. 1        | Coos Bay ARC Hamfest, Bandon, OR                       |
| Aug. 1-2      | Spokane Hamfest, WA                                    |
| Aug. 8        | Bend Hamfair, Deschutes Cnty. Fairgrounds, Redmond, OR |
| Aug. 8        | Tacoma Fleamarket, Tacoma, WA                          |
| Aug. 15       | LCARA, Longview, WA                                    |
| June 4-5      | 1999 - SAEPAC, Seaside, OR                             |
- <>

## PONY EXPRESS TOUR '98

National Relay Ride For Breast Cancer Research

From a brochure submitted by Betty, N7REX

In 1997, 44,600 lives will be lost to Breast Cancer (44,300 women and 300 men). This horrific figure will repeat itself again in 1998. You can help the research of this disease by serving as a sponsor on this national effort. Make a pledge on a rider's relay leg and 100 cents on each of your dollars will be spent on research,

Frances Adams, KB8PRL, a club member and daughter of Betty, N7REX, and Chuck Mickley, KI7CL, will be a Pony Express Tour Rider on one of the relay legs from Columbus to Akron, Ohio. The 15,000 mile relay will circumnavigate the US on a zigzag route. The tour is coming through Portland and will overnight here on the 7<sup>th</sup> of July.

Francis will be riding her motorcycle in the relay tour as part of the Women's Motorcycle Foundation support of the effort.

Contact Betty or Chuck for more information. (Ed - Refer to the interesting *Motorcycle Mobile* articles by Frances' husband, KB8PRS, in the May and June issues of the *Oscillator*.)

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## NEW MEMBER

By Editor, W7OTV

Please welcome three new members to our club:

George Normine, KC7OOE, who lives in Sherwood, Ken Gies, K7IQI, who lives on NW Cornell Road in Portland and Jerry Orberts, KI7TA, who lives on SE 42<sup>nd</sup> in Portland.

Please help these new members get acquainted and involved with the many opportunities provided by our club

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## MOVING SALE

Moving sale. Ham gear, electronics, components, connectors, etc. There are new items since our 6/20 sale. The sale is on 7/11 10AM-2PM, 7/12 10AM-5PM at 15750 NW Oak Hills Dr, Beaverton. For more details check my web page at: <http://home.earthlink.net/~griff/> or call 629-8934. Griff, N7ZKL.

## ROHN Towers

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FAX: (503) 591-1620

## DOES YOUR STATION COMPLY WITH THE FCC'S NEW SAFETY REGULATIONS?

From the W5YI REPORT

That's a good question – now there is an easy answer! You can use the *N6NB RF Safety Calculator* installed on the web at: <http://www.cs.utexas.edu/users/kharker/rfsafety/>

You simply key in your average transmitter power at the antenna, antenna gain, distance to the area of interest and the operating frequency. The program immediately tells you if you are in compliance or not.

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## SIX METERS ACROSS THE POND

From The Amateur Newline

Hams on the U.S. mainland who have been waiting to make Trans-Atlantic contacts on the six meter band need wait no more. This, according to Saint Johnsbury, Vermont amateur Larry Filby K1LPS.

According to Filby's posting to the VHF Reflector, he has worked two stations in Spain on what many call the Magic Band. Both contacts took place on June 6th at about 12:00 UTC. The first station contact was EH7KW followed ten minutes later by a QSO with EH7AH. Filby says that both stations had signals of S9+ and he didn't hear them working anyone else except W1AIM, who he alerted.

And two days prior to that, on Thursday, June 4th, Ed Rodriguez, WP4O reports via the same remailer that both he and KP4EIT have worked Portuguese station CT1DNF. The contact took place at 11:30 UTC. Ed says that KP4EIT also worked several OZ stations and at least one more CT before the band went dead. Ed notes that KP4EIT lives at a location that's about 2000 ft higher than his QTH. This gave Jose the advantage of hearing signals a bit louder than at WP4O.

And from across the Atlantic pond comes word from Geoff Brown, GJ4ICD that on Sunday, June 7th, 3C5I added six new countries to his log including Moldova. And stations in England made contacts with TR8CA, TR8XX and TR8CA. Geoff says that signals both ways were reported as many decibels over S9.

What all this means is that the long awaited age of VHF international DX has arrived. It also means that almost anyone, with even a simple six meter radio and a modest antenna should be able to enjoy the thrill of contacts like these. And as the summer and the solar cycle continue to grow, you can expect six meters to more than live up to its nickname as the magic band where almost anything can happen and usually does

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## TEN METER BAND PLAN UPDATE

From the CCARC newsletter

With the 10 meter band becoming more active each passing day, this is a good opportunity to present the suggested band plan. Following the band plans will help you make friends instead of enemies.

Using Sideband in the SSTV section of the band is not only bad manners, but it can put you at the top of several other ham's list. The ARRL suggested band plan is:

28.000 - 28.070Mhz - CW  
28.070 - 28.120Mhz - Data  
28.120 - 28.200Mhz - Automatic Data Stations  
28.200 - 28.300Mhz - Beacons  
28.385 - - QRP  
28.680 - - SSTV  
29.000 - 29.200Mhz - AM  
29.300 - 29.510Mhz - Satellite Downlinks  
29.520 - 29.590Mhz - Repeater Inputs  
29.600 - - FM Simplex  
29.610 - 29.700Mhz - Repeater Outputs

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## TIMEWAVE FILES CHAPTER 11 BANKRUPTCY

FROM THE ARRL LETTER

Amateur Radio equipment manufacturer Timewave Technology (<http://www.timewave.com>) of St Paul, Minnesota, has filed for Chapter 11 bankruptcy. Timewave President Randy Gawtry, K0CBH, says Timewave plans to continue normal operations while it prepares to file a reorganization and debt payment plan with the federal bankruptcy court. "The process now is in the early stages," he said.

The move comes a little more than a year after Timewave acquired rights to the AEA digital product line after AEA ran into financial trouble. Timewave is best known for its DSP filter accessories, such as the DSP-599zx.

"We're still operating and we're still doing repairs and upgrades for our DSP products," Gawtry said. "Nobody should panic."

Gawtry said the company still expects to have its new DSP-2232zx multimode TNC on the market later this year. But he conceded that under Chapter 11 bankruptcy, "any number of things can happen." The company has 60 days to file its reorganization plan, which must be approved by the court and by the company's creditors.

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### -Two Rules For Life-

1. Don't tell people everything you know.
- 2.

## IT'S PARTY TIME!!

A mailing from Tri-Cities Amateur Radio Club  
Richland, WA

Looking for great deals on used (and new) gear? Has the XYL told you that either some of that "stuff" goes - or you do? While we can't promise the answer to marital bliss, odds are that if you're looking for a bargain or just a plain good time, you'll find it at the 5th annual Tri-Cities Swapfest!

Mark your calendar for Saturday, July 11, and make plans to join us at the Kiwanis Building, nestled under the trees in Columbia Park and overlooking the scenic Columbia River. Doors open at 9:00 AM, with setup for sellers beginning at 7:00 AM. Admission, which includes an entry in the door prize drawing, is \$2.00. Swap tables are available for \$5.00.

Talk-in will be handled by club station W7VPA on 146.64- (no PL) and overnight camping is available nearby in the park. Reservations are suggested; contact the park at (509) 783-3711.

Door prizes this year include a Realistic HTX-404 70-cm handheld. The drawing will be at 3:00 PM, and you must be present to win. All paid admissions include entry in the prize drawing. Sorry, additional door prize tickets will not be available.

As of this writing, the KBARA folks from Spokane plan to operate a special event station in conjunction with the swapfest. Details are still being worked out, so listen to the TCARC's daily QST announcements, the TCARC Sunday night net, or the daily 7:00 AM KBARA net for more information.

For more information, contact:

- Mike Tesky, KC7CCK, (509) 783-6236, e-mail [kc7cck@3-cities.com](mailto:kc7cck@3-cities.com)
- Dick Goranson, N7WLD, (509) 783-3479, e-mail [dick\\_goranson@kcc-computers.com](mailto:dick_goranson@kcc-computers.com)

### SELLER PRE-REGISTRATION

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State: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: (\_\_\_\_) \_\_\_\_\_

# of tables @ \$5.00 each: \_\_\_\_\_

Total amount enclosed: \_\_\_\_\_

SEND TO: The Tri-City Amateur Radio Club, Inc.  
Attn: Swapfest  
PO Box 73  
Richland, WA 99352

(In the event of the need to cancel your reservations, we will fully refund your fees prior to July 1, 1998.)

## AREA VE TESTING SCHEDULE

By Editor, W7OTV

Phantom Amateur Radio Club (PARG)  
Second and fourth Sunday of each month  
Contact John, KA0SSF, at 503-626-7399

Salem Amateur Radio Club  
Third Saturday of each month  
Contact Sandy, N7TQQ, at 1-800-920-9604

McMinnville Amateur Radio Club  
Monthly on Wednesday evenings  
Call Mike Jones, AB7OE, at 503-864-3291

Clark County Amateur Radio Club  
Contact 360-896-8909

Portland Adventist Radio Club  
Portland Community Policing Center  
Contact Edith, KA7MIF, at 642-5803

Hoodview Amateur Radio Club  
Contact Patsy, W7PAT, at 503-668-4305

Oregon Tualatin Valley Amateur Radio Club  
1 Aug., and 5 Dec.  
Testing will be at the TV Fire & Rescue Bldg., 20665  
SW Blanton in Aloha., from 1PM to 5PM.  
Contact Carl Clawson at 503-629-5796 or 526-4610 if  
further details are needed.

<>

## DON'T TOUCH THAT IRON!

By Henry Deitchman, KB2SRU

To any and all do-it-yourselfers, beware of the Dual Heat Soldering Iron sold by Radio Shack, model number 64-2187. I purchased my first one from them in September. It shorted out and started smoking the second time I used it.

I promptly took it back for a replacement. The new one didn't make it past the first coax solder job before it, too, shorted out, and the barrel fell off, throwing solder on me, my computer keyboard and burned my new computer desk.

On investigation, I discovered the barrels that come out of the gun are themselves only soldered to the inside coil. **Danger!!** This manufacturing technique is highly hazardous. When I talked to the Radio Shack representative, he said, "The product is being taken off the market."

Later, when I called the area representative and local stores, they had not received any such notification. If this is an example of the current quality of workmanship from them, I would suggest caution in using any product purchased from them or certified from "United Laboratories (UL)." (Ed - Comments by the author are not substantiated by the OTVARC or the *Oscillator* Editor)



## BEING A HAM

From Amateur Radio Newslite

Like millions of people these days, Keith Baker thinks nothing of sending e-mail from his home computer to friends who may live halfway around the world. But his e-mail does not always travel the usual route, down a telephone line and out into that vast maze of glass and copper cables called the Internet.

Instead, Baker quite often sends his e-mail through outer space, relaying it through a fleet of communications satellites that he helped build. Day and night, one after another, these orbiting bulletin boards fly over his home in Xenia, Ohio, ready to forward e-mail and throw his voice to points far beyond the horizon. Delivery may take an hour or more, depending on a satellite's path and each message's destination. But Baker pays nothing for the service and can reach at least some of the satellites using only a \$250 handheld radio.

This is version 2.0 of ham radio, a hobby that is still thriving, still evolving and still captivating, even as technologies like laptop Web browsing and robots on Mars become taken for granted.

A new, digitally hip generation is sweeping into ham radio and virtually reinventing it from the inside out. A lot of today's ham gear relies as much on microchips and software as it does on the quartz crystals, odd-looking antennas and other elements of traditional wireless setups. After a surge of newcomers, during the mid-1970's boom in citizens' band radio, the number of licensed ham operators in the United States has grown to 670,000 today from 497,000 in 1990, an all-time high, with 1.8 million hams active overseas.

In a sense, the hams' shortwave radio spectrum was the original version of what is now called cyberspace, an ethereal venue where hobbyists could meet, compare notes on the latest gizmos and chat with friends and strangers.

That tradition lives on, although most of the innovation now involves much shorter and therefore higher-frequency radio waves than before. These higher-frequency signals do not travel nearly so far, but they can carry more information and are less subject to interference. And they make possible greatly miniaturized, even pocket-size, equipment.

By bouncing shortwave signals off the outer part of the Earth's atmosphere or in recent years, using those amateur satellites hams transmitting with less power than a 15-watt refrigerator light bulb can often communicate with people on the other side of the world. "Radio is black magic," says Dwayne Hendricks, one of the many hams in Silicon Valley and founder and president of Warp speed Imagineering, a provider of wireless Internet access. "You can't control it."

Nor can you predict exactly where your signal will travel, or who will be there to receive it. "I'll never forget the thrill of being stuck in traffic in Connecticut and talking with a guy driving on the Autobahn in Germany," said Brad Thomas, advertising manager at the American Radio Relay League, the leading ham organization,

which was founded in 1914. Thomas remembers making that contact via a mobile radio rig that cost him just \$200.

Another tradition that lives on: building one's hardware more or less from scratch. "One of the real thrills of ham radio is the pride of creating something yourself," said Geoffrey Baehr, a ham operator who is the chief network officer for Sun Microsystems, the computer maker in Mountain View, Calif. "It's the ultimate junk box. What I've got is essentially a license from the Federal Government to fiddle."

And with millions of hams all a-fiddling, the amateur airwaves resound these days with a bizarre symphony of many new and sometimes truly inspired subgenres. Thousands of hams around the world, for instance, communicate via some two dozen satellites that have been designed, built and launched by volunteers from the Radio Amateur Satellite Corp., based in Washington.

Baker is executive vice president of Amsat, as the worldwide, nonprofit group calls itself.

Amsat piggybacks its gear on commercial rocket launchings, usually in exchange for helping satellite makers field-test new engineering ideas. The Amsat satellites are open for use by all hams, Baker said, although their limited carrying capacity makes getting access the luck of the draw.

Another group of volunteers devotes itself to a nonsatellite technology called packet radio. The technique has brought into being an essentially all-wireless Internet that crisscrosses the globe with hundreds of thousands of local and long-distance radio links.

Although they resemble Internet-based e-mail in that each message is broken into many tiny radio data packets that must be reassembled at the receiving end the packets may take an hour or two to get from a sender's computer in Los Angeles to a computer in New York. That is because, depending on data-packet traffic conditions, the packets may hop between hundreds of intermediate packet-radio relay stations before reaching their destination.

More than 100,000 American hams run such repeater stations, all swapping one another's packets in a grand display of digital cooperation. There are even hams who specialize in bouncing conversations off the biggest satellite of them all, the moon.

Others run their own television stations from attics and basements, reaching small audiences of other hams who have tweaked standard television sets to receive and decode the slow-speed signals. And

*(Continued on page 8)*

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Ray Deeth  
180 So. Main (#C)  
Banks, Oregon 97106

(Continued from page 7 — BEING A HAM)

some San Francisco-area hams, fed up with the local phone company, have even begun their own alternative nonprofit carrier, using high-capacity microwaves to beam phone calls and Web pages directly into their homes.

Traditional ham radio has hardly disappeared. Practitioners, though, are mainly the over-40 crowd, people who were bitten by the radio bug well before the computer and Internet revolutions. Often living on hilltops and operating 1,000-watt transmitters the legal maximum and towering antennas, these hams are most active in early evening. That is when the planet's outer atmosphere, the mirror like ionosphere, is protected from blasts of solar wind and is most placid; that makes it best able to bounce the hams' dots, dashes and voices all over the dark side of the Earth.

Yet, instead of winding their own tuning coils and wielding soldering irons as they used to, most of these traditionally minded hams now operate mass-produced equipment from Japan. Heathkit, an American brand name that was synonymous with the postwar era of sturdy, build-it-yourself radio gear, is but a memory. But it is a cherished one, judging by the several online Heathkit museums that can be found on the Web, like the Heathkit Virtual Museum. When hams celebrate their heritage through Web sites, it is simply one more example of amateur radio and the Internet crossbreeding, not only technologically, but culturally, too.

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## 10 SURE WAYS TO DESTROY YOUR CLUB!

From the Modulator, newsletter of the Fort Myers (FL) ARC

1. Stay away from meetings. Show up at meetings only if you have problems or complaints.
2. Decline office or appointment to any committee. Then get angry if you are nominated.
3. Insist in describing the club in negative terms only.
4. Never prepare an agenda, never plan the details of an event and never coordinate with affiliates.
5. Don't do any club work if you can avoid it. Then, when the old reliables pitch in and get the job done, accuse them of being a clique.
6. If you do come to a meeting, don't speak until the meeting is finished. Then criticize and say how things should have been handled.
7. Oppose all new programs as being a waste of the membership's money.
8. When nothing new happens, complain that the officers lack imagination.
9. Read your newsletters infrequently. Then complain that you don't know what is going on.
10. Never introduce yourself to new members or visitors — make them come to you.

<>

No one ever appreciates the value of constructive criticism more thoroughly than the person who is giving it!

## ACHTUNG!

By Neil, KA7KLA

Das Machine is nicht fur Gefingerpoken und mit grabben. Ist easy schnappen der springenwerk blowen fusen und coken-poppen mit spitzensparken. Ist nicht fur gewerken by das Dummkopfen. Das rubbernecken Sightseeren keepen hands in das pockets. Relaxen und watch das Blinkenlights

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## CLUB BADGES AND JACKETS

By Carl, WS7L

Club jackets and name badges with the club name are still available. Contact Carl, WS7L, at a club meeting or at 629-5796.

Badges are priced at \$7.50 and will be ordered monthly or as demand allows.

Jackets must be ordered in lots of six so I will hold orders until I have six and then reconfirm with you. Current price for a lined jacket is \$36.25 — unlined is \$33.89. Name and call embroidered on the front is \$4.50 extra.

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## CLUB EQUIPMENT LOAN PROGRAM

By Editor, W7OTV

Need some good gear to check out HF? No problem — OTVARC has a loaner program which allows you to borrow usable equipment to get onto the HF bands. This equipment has been donated to OTVARC for the purpose of lending it to members who do not have their own equipment. There is no cost to OTVARC members.

A Heath HW-101 is looking for a good temporary home — this is a 100 watt, 80 through 10 SSB and CW transceiver. We also have a few bucks in a fund to buy accessories such as an antenna tuner to lend with the transceiver, if you need one.

This is a great way to see if you like the world of HF without making a large investment in equipment. A typical equipment loan would be for a period of six months, at which time the loan would be reviewed and possibly extended, if the equipment is actually being put to good use by the borrower. Otherwise, the equipment would be recalled and loaned to another person who wants to use it.

If you have some equipment that is surplus to you and you think it could be loaned to others through this program, please contact me and we will discuss it. You will not necessarily have to give up your ownership of the equipment, since you will not have to actually donate it to otvarc.

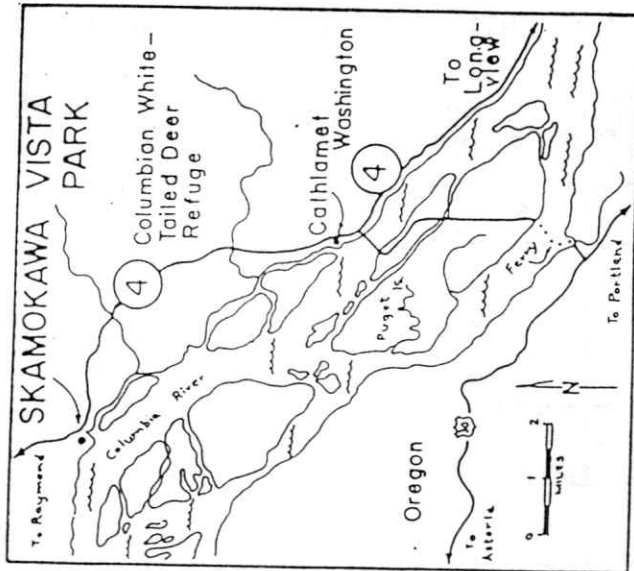
Contact Stan Griffiths, W7NI, at 649-0837, or contact him at the next meeting if you are interested in this program.

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# OTVARC TRAVELERS CAMPOUT

July 9-10-11-12 1998



• 13 School Road

P.O. Box 2

Skamokawa, WA 98647-0002

(206) 795-8605

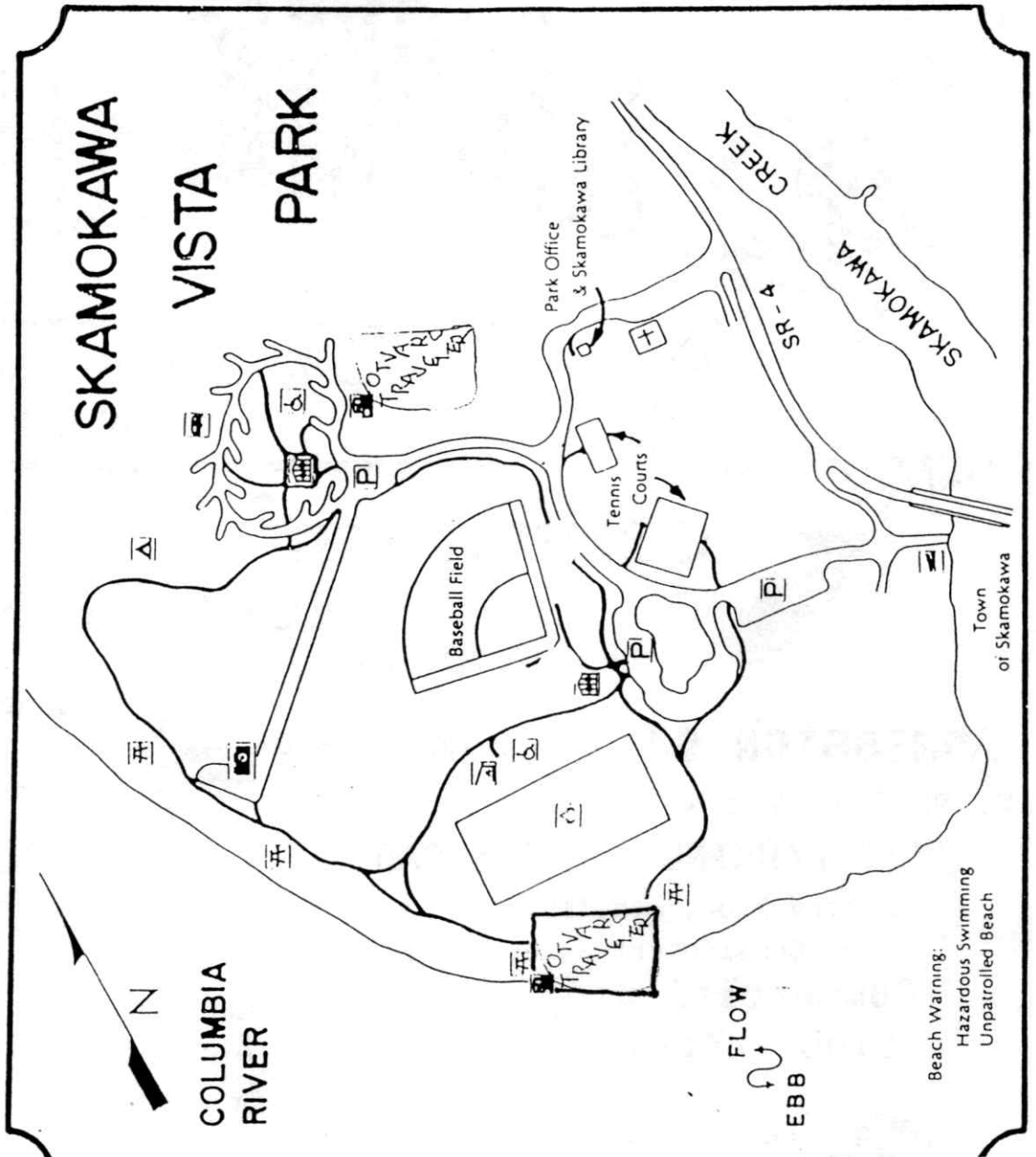
info call Roger or Marvel Noyes  
292-3261

## Facilities

Besides camping, visitors may enjoy the Skamokawa Library, tennis and other racquet sports, basketball, baseball and a large playground, walking paths and viewpoint. Tot lots are located in the camping and picnic areas. A boat launching facility is connected with the park. Fishing and other water related activities are popular in the area.

## Welcome to Skamokawa Vista Park

Skamokawa Vista Park is located on the shores of the Columbia River, 30 miles from the Pacific Ocean. Covering 28 acres, it is the former site of the old Skamokawa Grade School, torn down in 1973. The area was once the home of the Wahkia, a tribe of Indians. Lewis and Clark passed through here on their way to the Pacific Ocean in 1805. Skamokawa itself was the name of the Chief of the Wahkiakums, and means "Smoke-on-the-Water", due to morning fog. In 1976, Skamokawa was named a Historic District and placed on the State and National Registers of Historic Places.



## OTVARC Club Contacts

### OTVARC Executive Board

President	Betty Mickley	N7REX	642-1284
Vice President	J.D. Fort	K7JDF	259-0269
Secretary	Dale LeBarron	W7FBP	638-7768
Treasurer	Hanford Van Ness	KE7BB	246-7975
Trustee	Jack Smithson	KA7HOJ	646-1873
Trustee	Will Sheffield	N7THL	642-7314
Trustee	Janet Bell	WB7FJC	648-4147
Trustee	Al Berg	W7SIC	640-5456
Trustee	Maureen O'Rourke	KA7LAP	591-9641

### Other Club Contacts

ARRL Coordinator	Bob Orr	WF7Q	472-2716
Bunny Hunting	OPEN		
Contesting	OPEN		
DX News	OPEN		
Equipment Loan	Stan Griffiths	W7NI	649-0837
Equipment Valuation	Randy Stimson	KZ7T	297-1175
Equipment Trustee	Al Berg	W7SIC	640-5456
Emergency Services	J.D. Fort	K7JDF	259-0269
Field Day Coordinator	Alan Chinnock	KB7POR	636-2237
Healthe & Welfare	Mary Berg	N7TRW	640-5456
Historian	Al Berg	W7SIC	640-5456
Internet Home Page	Marc Chamberlin	WA7PXW	357-1869
Member Badges	Carl Clawson	WS7L	629-5796
Newsletter Editor	Dale LeBarron	W7FBP	638-7768
Newsletter Layout	Dale LeBarron	W7FBP	638-7768
Newsletter Distribution	Al Berg	W7SIC	640-5456
Nominating Committee	Randy Stimson	KZ7T	297-1175
Packet - Club BBS	Rick Braun	KB7OGD	645-1490
Project Night	Alan Chinnock	KB7POR	636-2237
	Chuck Mickley	KI7CL	652-1284
Public Relations	J.D. Fort	K7JDF	259-0269
Public Service	Randy Stimson	KZ7T	297-1175
Repeater	Wes Allen	K7WWG	649-3295
RFI & TVI	Dale Mosby	K7FW	640-0217
Satellites	Open		
Scholarship	Carl Clawson	WS7L	629-5796
Sea*Pac	Al Berg	W7SIC	640-5456
"	Brad Beach	N7NVC	657-1781
"	Jim Schaeffer	KB7ADH	245-2518
"	Randy Stimson	KZ7T	297-1175
Station Trustee	Chuck Mickley	KI7CL	642-3713
Social	Harold Landers	WA0BRU	620-5041
Technical Specialist	Stan Griffiths	W7NI	649-0837
Tower Ordinances	Greg Milnes	W7AGQ	648-6990
Trailer	Dee Lynch	KA7NPN	646-4580
Training(code)	Burt Rooke(PCC)	KI7JX	241-2891
Training(Novice/Tech)	Burt Rooke(PCC)	KI7JX	241-2891
Training(upgrade)	OPEN		
VE Test Coordinator	Carl Clawson	WS7L	629-5796
VHF/UHF	Arnold Jensen	N7YAG	543-3713

## OTVARC Club Information

**Purpose:** The Oregon Tualatin Valley Amateur Radio Club, a Not-for-profit corporation, wants to be instrumental in helping the prospective as well as established Amateur to become a proficient communicator in the Amateur Radio Service.

Additionally, the intent is to promote the advancement of Amateur Radio Service, through the following five objectives:

1. Education & Training of new and licensed Amateurs.
2. Public Service during public events & community activities.
3. Emergency communications during emergencies & disasters.
4. Hobby enhancement through meetings, nets & contests.
5. Social contact with other amateurs & interested persons.

**Special Service Club:** OTVARC is an ARRL Special Service Club. The ARRL grants us this distinction due to our participation in emergency preparedness exercises, public service events and other service-oriented programs. In addition, continuing educational and training programs are conducted for FCC licenses. OTVARC benefits from you joining the ARRL through OTVARC. To join or renew your membership in the ARRL, contact the treasurer at any regular meeting.

**Newsletter:** The *OTVARC Oscillator* is the club newsletter. It is published monthly and is usually mailed on the first of the month. The opinions, views, and recommendations of its contributors are not necessarily those of the club, its officers, advertisers or the editorial staff.

**Correspondence:** All correspondence may be sent to OTVARC, PO Box 5132, Aloha, OR 97006-0132.

**Advertising:** Classified ads are free to all paid up members. Display ads are available to approved commercial interests. To place an ad, mail your camera ready copy to the address above and indicate the size desired. All display ads run for six months at a time, from January through June and July through December. All ads must be paid for in advance. Rates are as follows:

Full page	8" X 10"	\$200 for six months
Half page	8" X 5"	\$120 for six months
Qtr page	4" X 5"	\$72 for six months
Bus.Card	2" X 3"	\$36 for six months

**Meetings:** We have two meetings per month. The board meeting is on the fourth Wednesday of each month. All club business is conducted at this meeting. All members are welcome to attend. Contact the President for location and time. The general meeting is on the second Wednesday of each month at the Beaverton Elks Lodge. 3500 SW 104<sup>th</sup> Ave. (1 block north of Canyon Road). Meetings start at 7PM. If you would like to come early, you can get a nice meal from the Elks for less than \$6.00.

**Membership:** OTVARC is open to anyone who is interested in amateur radio. You do not need to be a licensed radio amateur to join. Dues are as follows: Full member, \$10/yr; Associate member (non-licensed), \$10/yr; Family members of full member, \$5/yr; Life memberships available - see the Treasurer. Only full members and life members may vote on club business and serve as club officers. All memberships expire on the last day of the calendar year. If you would like to join during the year, see the club treasurer for prorated dues.

**How to join:** Simply mail the Membership application and/or renewal form along with your dues to the address above.

1998 marks OTVARC's twentieth year as an active club!

Please help celebrate this anniversary by contacting any club officer with your ideas on possible anniversary activities.

### WORLDWIDE DISTRIBUTION



**Ray McCarty**  
Manager  
K17TN

11705 S.W. Pacific Hwy.  
Portland, OR 97223  
(503) 598-0555, 1-800-854-6046  
Fax (503) 684-0469

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SEE YOU THERE -- BRING YOUR APPETITE!

Harold has arranged for the next lunch to be at the *HELVETIA TAVERN*, located out at 20275 NW Helvetia Road. Telephone number there is 647-5296. Gathering time to order is 1:30PM on Saturday, July 25<sup>th</sup>.  
To get to the Tavern, go west on Hiway 26, past Cornelius Pass Road and turn off at Helvetia Road. Helvetia Road is about one and one-half miles west of Cornelius Pass Road. It is an overpass interchange.  
Go north on Helvetia Road about 2 miles. The Tavern is on the left just after you pass under the railroad trestle. We will be in the dining room -- it is off the Tavern area.

## OTVARC FOR LUNCH BUNCH

### OTVARC

OregonTualatin Valley ARC  
PO Box 5132  
Aloha, OR 97006-0132

Address Correction Requested



***JULY 27TH***

***NATIONAL KOREAN  
WAR VETERAN'S  
ARMISTICE DAY***